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ANNUAL REPORT

on

the health

of the

ROMSEY and STOCKBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1971

R. J. K. TALLACK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ROMSEY AND STOCKBRIDGE

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1971

To the Chairman and Members of the Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District Council :

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the health of your District for the year 1971. The Chief Public Health Inspector's Report on the work of the Health Department, with which he is specially concerned, is embodied in the Report.

When considering the Vital Statistics, slight variations from year to year should not normally be regarded as statistically significant in view of the small population of the District.

I would like to express my thanks to the staff of the Department for the way in which they have carried out their duties in the year under review.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant

R. V. Talbot

Medical Officer of Health

S T A F F

(as at 31st December 1971)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH : (part time)

R. J. K. Tallack, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

M. C. Gratton, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS :

P. J. Wells, M.A.P.H.I.

C. A. J. Soffe, M.A.P.H.I.

RODENT OFFICER :

R. A. Lanaghan

GENERAL OFFICE STAFF :

Mrs. E. V. Mathews

Mrs. M. D. Lucas (part time)

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	82,055
Estimated mid-year resident population	26,560
Estimated number of inhabited dwellings	7,631
Rateable Value, 1st April 1972	£1,012,146
Sum represented by a penny rate (for the financial year ended 31st March 1972)	£9,915
Number of Council Houses built during 1971 ...	33
Number of Council Houses sold during 1971 ...	31
Total number of Council Houses up to 31st December 1971	1,300

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT

The District covers an area of 82,055 acres, approximately 129 square miles, comprising 28 parishes, with a population of 26,560 The District comprises the parishes of the lower Test Valley and those bordering on the Wiltshire border. It is bounded in the South by the Southampton City area and the New Forest, and in the North by Andover Rural District.

The geological formation of the District is mainly chalk, overlaid in places with beds of clay, gravel and sand.

The area is concerned primarily with agriculture, there being in the District several large private estates. The Southern parishes are developing quite rapidly into a dormitory area for Southampton, especially now that improved train services enable daily commuting to London. There are numbers of small industries scattered throughout the District, notably chemical and glue works, gravel and sand extraction in the Southern parishes, sawmilling in the wooded areas of the Western part of the District, and in the North at the Wallops, turkey processing and a number of light industrial activities such as printing.

The District is crossed by two main holiday routes to the Western Counties, in the South by the A31 and A36 roads, and in the North by the main A30.

Rainfall, Sun hours and Temperatures (as recorded at Southampton) :

Month	Rain (inches)	Sun (hours)	Average Temperatures	
			Maximum °C	Minimum °C
January	4.35	47.5	8.1	3.4
February	1.05	75.2	8.7	2.1
March	2.85	120.2	9.2	2.5
April	2.05	163.7	12.8	5.2
May	1.20	237.6	17.5	8.4
June	5.11	174.1	17.8	10.1
July	1.58	269.7	23.3	13.7
August	2.16	150.7	20.5	13.7
September	0.35	207.2	20.7	10.5
October	2.44	153.3	16.8	8.7
November	2.17	101.2	10.9	2.9
December	1.16	33.9	9.5	4.9

The highest temperature recorded was 29.6°C (85°F) on 9th July. The highest on record this century was 33.9°C (93°F) on 16th and 17th August 1947.

The lowest temperature recorded was -5.7°C (22°F) on 4th January. The lowest recorded this century was -11.7°C (11°F) on 3rd March 1909.

June average maximum temperature is the lowest recorded for that month since 1946.

The June total of 5.11 inches is the second highest recorded for that month during this century, the highest being 5.45 inches in 1909. Sunshine in November was the highest since 1923, and the year's total the highest since 1959.

EXTRACTS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births :	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	203	181	384
Illegitimate	7	6	13
	210	187	397

Birth Rate :	1970	1971
Per 1,000 estimated resident population ...	16.4	14.9
Birth Rate for England and Wales	16.0	16.0
After application of Comparability Factor (1.07)	17.5	15.9
Illegitimate live births % of total live births	4	3

Still Births :	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	1	2	3

	1970	1971
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	14	8
England and Wales	13	12
Total live and still births	425	400

Extracts of Vital Statistics (Contd.)

Infant Mortality :	Male	Female	Total
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :			
Legitimate	8	2	10
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	8	3	11

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :	1970	1971
Infants per 1,000 live births	10	28
Rate for England and Wales	18	18
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	10	26
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	-	77

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks of age) :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	5	2	7

(The deaths of infants under 4 weeks in England and Wales during 1971 were 9,113 = rate of 12/1,000 live births.)

	1970	1971
Rate per 1,000 related live births	7	18
Rate for England and Wales	12	12

Extracts of Vital Statistics (Contd.)

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate
Deaths under 1 week/1,000 total live births) :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	4	2	6

Rate = 15 per 1,000 live births.

Rate for England and Wales = 10 per 1,000 live births.

Perinatal Mortality Rate
(Still births and deaths under 1 week/1,000 total live and still births) :

	1970	1971
Still Births	6	3
Deaths under 1 week	2	6
	8	9

Rate = 23 per 1,000 total live and still births.

Rate for England and Wales = 22 per 1,000 live and still births.

Maternal Mortality
(Death and Death Rates/1,000 total live and still births) :

	1970	1971
Number of deaths	-	-
Maternal Death Rate for England and Wales ...	0.19	0.17
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ...	-	-
Estimated female population aged 15-44 years England and Wales - 30.6.71	9,367.100	

Deaths : Male = 106 Female = 113 Total = 219

Extracts of Vital Statistics (Contd.)

Deaths (Contd.)

	1970	1971
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	9.8	8.2
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.7	11.6
After application of Comparability Factor (1.01)	9.9	8.3

The death rate comparability figure is adjusted specifically to take account of any residential institutions in the area.

Population :

The estimated population given by the Registrar-General shows an increase of 960. The births registered during the year exceed the deaths registered by 178 representing, therefore, an immigrant increase of 782. In 1970 there was an immigrant decrease of 142.

The Chief causes of death, in order of frequency :

Amongst the chief causes of death in order of frequency were :-

	1970 (% of all deaths)	1971 (% of all deaths)
(a) Disease of the Heart and Circulatory System	86-34.3%	78-35.6%
(b) Cancer of all sites	65-25.9%	52-23.7%
(c) Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	33-13.1%	26-11.9%
(d) Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	28-11.2%	17- 7.8%

CANCER OF THE LUNG AND BRONCHUS

Deaths from Malignant Neoplasm of Lung and Bronchus :

	1968	1969	1970	1971
Male	17	11	14	10
Female	-	5	7	4
Totals :	17	16	21	14
As percentage of all deaths from all forms of Cancer ...	26.9%	24.6%	32.3%	26.9%

CANCER

The number of deaths attributed to Cancer was 52 - 25 males and 27 females, of which 14 (10 males and 4 females) were due to cancer of the lung and bronchus - 26.9% of all cancer deaths. (The total of deaths attributed to Cancer includes 2 cases (1 male and 1 female) of Leukaemia.)

For comparison, the number of deaths from Cancer and rates per 1,000 of the population in the District since 1968 are as follows :-

Year	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 population
1968	63	2.5
1969	65	2.5
1970	65	2.5
1971	52	1.96

SUMMARY OF COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS

Year	Population	Romsey and Stockbridge R.D.C.			England and Wales		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1968	25,390	8.0	15.4	9.4	18.0	16.9	11.9
1969	25,910	22.0	15.9	9.2	18.0	16.3	11.9
1970	25,600	10.0	16.4	9.8	18.0	16.0	11.7
1971	26,560	28.0	14.9	8.2	18.0	16.0	11.6

IMR = Infant Mortality Rate expressed as per 1,000 live births.
BR = Birth Rate expressed as per 1,000 resident population.
DR = Death Rate expressed as per 1,000 resident population.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers of the Authority :

1 ... ... Medical Officer of Health (part time)

1 ... ... Chief Public Health Inspector

2 ... ... Public Health Inspectors

Laboratory Facilities :

Chemical examinations are carried out at the City of Southampton Laboratory, and bacteriological examinations at the Public Health Laboratory, Southampton. A fee is charged by the City of Southampton, but the Public Health Laboratory Service under the Public Health Laboratory Service Act, 1960, is now administered by a Board appointed by the Minister of Health, with its own legal status, and no fees are charged.

Ambulance Facilities :

The ambulances operating in the area are controlled for the full 24 hours, seven days a week, from the County Central Control, Winchester - telephone Winchester 61644, and requests for transport should be made to this Control only.

THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Details of Health Visitors, District Nurses and Midwives serving in the District who are able to give attention to cases at home on medical certificate are :-

AREA	SERVICE	NAME AND ADDRESS
Attached to Drs. Rankine, Dale and Wattie. Unattached work in North Baddesley, Nursling, Rownhams and Chilworth.	DN/M	Miss P. Cork, 8, Winfrith Way, Nursling, Southampton. Tel : Rownhams 2239.
King's Somborne, Little Somborne, Ashley, Leckford and Stockbridge.	DN/M	Mrs. S. A. Sheppard, "Hawthornes", Winchester Road, King's Somborne. Tel : King's Somborne 400.
The Wallops, Longstock.	DN/M	Mrs. J. M. Walker, "Green Gables", Knockwood Road, Nether Wallop, Stockbridge. Tel : Wallop 455.
Attached to Drs. Rankine, Dale and Wattie, except in West Tytherley and Lockerley. Unattached in Romsey South.	DN/M	Mrs. J. Bishop, "Juhu", Halterworth Lane, Crampmoor, Romsey. Tel : Romsey 512521
Attached to Drs. Knight, Johnson, Johnson, Summerhayes, Parry-Jones and Akerman, except in Lockerley and West Tytherley.	DN/M	Mrs. W. R. Picken, "Kyrenia", Megana Way, Braishfield, Romsey. Tel : Braishfield 263.

	AREA	SERVICE	NAME AND ADDRESS
	Attached to Drs. Knight, Johnson, Johnson, Summerhayes, Parry-Jones and Akerman.	DN/M	Miss S. Bishop, The Flat, "Monkswood", Belbins, Cupernham Lane, Romsey. Tel : Braishfield 648.
	Attached to Drs. Knight, Johnson, Johnson, Summerhayes, Parry-Jones and Akerman.	DN	Mrs. B. Gilks, 2, Lansdown Gardens, Romsey. Tel : Romsey 512116.
*	Broughton, Bossington, Chattis Hill and Houghton.	DN/M/HV	Mrs. R. Durant, 2, Greenacres, Salisbury Road, Broughton, Stockbridge. Tel : Broughton 249.
*	East and West Tytherley, East and West Dean, Buckholt and Lockerley, also for patients of Dr. Knight and Partners, and Dr. Rankine and Partners in Lockerley and West Tytherley. Not including patients of Wiltshire Doctors (H.V. only).	DN/M/HV	Miss K. Huggeridge, South Lodge, Hildon, Broughton. Tel : Broughton 370
*	The Wallops.	H.V.	Miss M. L. Collins, Health Clinic, 70, Junction Road, Andover. Tel : Andover 2554.
	Attached to Drs. Knight, Johnson, Johnson, Summerhayes, Parry-Jones and Akerman, except in Tytherley and Lockerley.	H.V.	Mrs. A. Taylor, "Beechwood", Ampfield, Romsey. Tel : Braishfield 392.

	AREA	SERVICE	NAME AND ADDRESS
*	Attached to Drs. Rankine, Dale and Wattie, except in Tytherley and Lockerley.	H.V.	Mrs. H. Pointer, "Bryn-Coed", Newtown Road, Sherfield English, Romsey. Tel : Lockerley 377.
	Attached to Drs. Knight, Johnson, Johnson, Summerhayes, Parry-Jones and Akerman, except in Tytherley and Lockerley. Unattached work in Nursling, Rownhams and Chilworth.	H.V.	Mrs. E. C. Caton, "Somerley", Rownhams Lane, Nursling, Southampton. Tel : Rownhams 2545.
	Unattached work in Stockbridge, King's Somborne, Leckford, Longstock, Romsey, Mottisfont and North Baddesley.	H.V.	Miss C. Howlett, 10, Birch Close, Whitenap Lane, Romsey. Tel : Romsey 512519.

* SPECIAL NOTE :-

Health Visitors working near the Hants/Wilts Border visit Hants Doctor's patients in Wiltshire. Similarly, Wiltshire Health Visitors visit Hants patients of Wiltshire Doctors.

Home Help Service :

The object of the Home Help Service is to relieve anxiety by providing household help when the housewife is indisposed through sickness or accident, or during confinement, and for other persons aged and sick. It is not intended to replace help which could be given by relatives and/or neighbours, but rather to supplement such assistance. The Divisional Office for the Romsey and Stockbridge area is situated at The Red House, Romsey Road, Eastleigh (Telephone : Eastleigh 2558) and is open to the public from 8.30.a.m. to 5.00.p.m. Monday to Friday (inclusive).

Clinics and Treatment Centres :

(a) Child Health Clinics :

BROUGHTON	–	Village Hall, High Street	–	2nd Wednesday
HOUGHTON	–	Village Hall	–	4th Tuesday
KING'S SOMBORNE	–	Village Hall, Romsey Road	–	1st and 3rd Tuesdays
LOCKERLEY	–	Memorial Hall, Butts Green	–	4th Wednesday
MIDDLE WALLOP	–	Sick Quarters, Army Air Corps Centre	–	2nd Wednesday
NORTH BADDESLEY	–	Village Hall	–	Every Wednesday (Doctor in attendance 1st and 3rd)
OVER WALLOP	–	The Church Hall, Main Road	–	3rd Monday
ROMSEY	–	Red Cross Centre, The Gardens	–	Every Thursday
SHERFIELD ENGLISH	–	Village Hall	–	1st Monday
STOCKBRIDGE	–	Town Hall	–	4th Tuesday
TIMSBURY	–	Women's Institute Hall, Water Lane	–	2nd Tuesday
WEST TYTHERLEY	–	King Edwards Hall	–	3rd Wednesday
WEST WELLOW	–	Reading Room, Romsey Road	–	4th Tuesday

The Child Health Clinics are staffed by Health Visitors, Assistant County Medical Officers and Voluntary helpers. The District Nurses attend these Clinics when other duties permit.

Day Nurseries :

Name and Address of Proprietor	Premises where children are received	Maximum No. of children
Miss D. Dixon, 41, Wilmer Road, Eastleigh.	The Parish Hall, North Baddesley.	56
Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop.	12, Officers Married Quarters, Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop.	40
Mrs. Andrews, Hill House, Horns Drove, Rownhams.	Community Centre, Nursling Street, Nursling.	32
Mrs. Smeed, Colbury Cottage, Calmore, Totton.	The Village Hall, East Wellow.	24
Mrs. S. Massey, "Goldfinches", Romsey Road, King's Somborne.	The Working Men's Club, King's Somborne.	20
Mrs. Peck, "The Willows", Houghton.	The Village Hall, Houghton.	25

Day Nurseries (Contd.)

Name and Address of Proprietor	Premises where children are received	Maximum No. of children
Mrs. Y. Phillips, Yew Tree Cottage, Awbridge.	The Methodist Sunday School, Newtown Triangle, Newtown.	20
Mrs. Mead, "Mountain Ash", Timsbury.	Women's Institute Hall, Timsbury.	16
Mrs. C. Buck, 1, Greenacres, Salisbury Road, Broughton.	Village Hall, Broughton	24
Mrs. Thompson, 14, Orchard Close, North Baddesley.	The All Saints Church Hall, Rownhams Road, North Baddesley.	29
Mrs. M. Evans, Ampfield Vicarage, Ampfield.	At her home address.	8
Mrs. McKay, Caldy Close, Green Lane, Chilworth.	At her home address.	8

Day Nurseries (Contd.)

Name and Address of Proprietor	Premises where children are received	Maximum No. of children
Mrs. S. Smith, 22, Beverley Gardens, Woodley, Romsey.	At her home address.	2
Mrs. B. Hancock, Holly Tree Cottage, 12, Middle Road, North Baddesley.	At her home address.	14
Mrs. P. Quirke, 66, Northlands Road, Whitenap, Romsey.	At her home address.	10
Mrs. A. Hayes, 7, Cedar Crescent, North Baddesley.	At her home address.	3
Mrs. J. Golden, 8, Firgrove Road, North Baddesley.	At her home address.	3

Care of Mothers and Young Children :

Ante-natal care is given by General Practitioners in the District and by the District Midwives, some patients attend Maternity Hospitals in Winchester, Salisbury or Southampton.

Maternity Accommodation :

Maternity Accommodation is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Applications for the admission of normal cases for social reasons are made to the County Medical Officer. Arrangements for the admission of abnormal cases and those requiring institutional confinement on account of medical conditions are made by the General Practitioner Obstetrician directly with the Institution concerned. (N.B. Patients expecting their first babies are now admitted by direct approach to hospital by General Practitioner).

Dental Treatment :

Mobile dental trailers visit the schools throughout the area, and comprehensive dental treatment is available to all pre-school children, expectant and nursing mothers. Appointments can be obtained from the Chief Dental Officer, Health Department, The Castle, Winchester (Telephone Winchester 4411, Extn. 317).

Hospitals :

The Wessex Regional Hospital Board supply general maternity and infectious diseases (including tuberculosis) and smallpox hospital services for this area.

Mass X-Ray Service : (Children under 10 no mass X-Ray)

The area is served by the mobile mass X-Ray units maintained by the Wessex Regional Hospital Board. The following times are available for Mass X-Ray :-

SOUTHAMPTON 7, Archers Road :

Mondays	- 9.30 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.	- 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. 5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.
Tuesdays	- 9.30 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.	
Wednesdays	- 9.30 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.	- 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Thursdays	- 9.30 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.	- 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Mental Health Services :

As from 1.4.71, responsibility for Special Schools for Severely Sub-normal Children (former Junior Training Centres) was accepted by the Education Authority. The service remains as follows :-

(a) Day Special Schools

Greenacres Day Special School,
Andover Road,
Winchester.

Tel : Winchester 62450

Icknield Day Special School,
River Way,
Andover.

Tel : Andover 5297

Mental Health Services (Contd.)

(b) Branches of Hampshire Training Industries :
(Adult Training Centre)

Andover Branch,
Station Approach,
Junction Road,
Andover.

Bishopstoke Branch,
Church Road,
Bishopstoke,
Eastleigh.

Mental Health Social Work services are provided by officers based on the Area Mental Health Office, Friarsgate Health Clinic, Winchester and the following officers serve the Romsey and Stockbridge area :-

Mr. J. E. Morrison,
Senior Mental Health Social Worker.

Mr. T. Trueman,
Mental Health Social Worker.

During working hours these officers can be contacted by telephoning Winchester 62144, Extension 49. At all other times the appropriate duty officer can be contacted through the Central Ambulance Control (Telephone Winchester 61644).

THE PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Parish	Revised Estimated Population	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Measles	Meningococcal Infection	Whooping Cough	Tuberculosis NR	Tuberculosis R	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Acute Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Paratyphoid Fever	Infective Jaundice	Total Notifications each Parish
Ampfield	1,583	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Broughton	958	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Chilworth	1,281	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
Lockerley	727	-	-	3	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Melchet Park and Plaitford	366	-	-	2	-	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
North Baddesley	5,250	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nether Wallop	837	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
Romsey Extra	1,804	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sherfield English	1,301	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Stockbridge	435	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Totals :	14,642	1	-	9	1	-	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	17

N.B. There were no infectious diseases notified from the remaining Parishes.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation :

Below is the number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation and booster treatment during the year, as compared with 1970, these include figures of General Practitioners Computer Appointments, as supplied by the County Medical Officer :-

Ages at date of final treatment	Number having full primary dose		Number having secondary treatment	
	1970	1971	1970	1971
Diphtheria Immunisation alone :				
Under 1	-	-	-	-
1 to 5	-	-	-	-
Others under 16	-	-	-	-
Totals :	-	-	-	-
Combined (Diphtheria/ Whooping Cough) :	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Triple (Diphtheria/ Whooping Cough/ Tetanus)				
Under 1	3	6	-	-
1 to 5	260	291	52	51
Others under 16	1	-	-	-
Totals :	264	297	52	51
Diphtheria/Tetanus :				
Under 1	-	-	-	-
1 to 5	38	21	218	223
Others under 16	2	-	17	42
Totals :	40	21	235	265

POLIOMYELITIS

No cases of Poliomyelitis were notified in the District.

Oral poliomyelitis vaccine is still the most popular form of administration, and is used with only occasional exception by General Practitioners, Child Health Clinics and School Clinics. Vaccination against poliomyelitis given were as follows :-

	Primary Doses	Re-inforcing Doses
Records received from County Medical Officer	32	276
Figures supplied by County Medical Officer of General Practitioners Computer Appointments	276	16
Totals :	308	292

MEASLES

9 cases were notified, affecting the parishes of Chilworth (1), Lockerley (3), Melchet Park and Plaitford (2), Nether Wallop (1), Romsey Extra (1), Sherfield English (1).

Measles (Contd.)

The following gives the number of cases since 1967, and the attack rate per 1,000 of the population :-

Year	Number of cases notified	Attack Rate
1967	240	9.6
1968	35	1.4
1969	13	.51
1970	95	3.7
1971	9	.33

The following gives the number of children vaccinated at school by the Medical Officer of Health, also records received from the County Medical Officer, and records received in respect of General Practitioners Computer Appointments since the inception of the vaccination scheme :-

	1968	1969	1970	1971	Total
Vaccinated by Medical Officer of Health	223	147	192	50	612
Records received from County Medical Officer ...	-	212	174	119	505
Records received in respect of General Practitioners Computer Appointments	-	-	21	338	359
	223	359	387	507	1,476

Vaccination against Rubella - (German Measles) :

In July 1970, the Department of Health and Social Security arranged that vaccination against Rubella (German Measles) would be made available to girls aged 11, 12 and 13. Priority was to be given to girls in the latter age group and parents would be given the chance of having their girls vaccinated at school or by their family General Practitioner.

Initially the County Medical Officer invited the parents of schoolgirls to participate in this scheme and your Medical Officer of Health on programming these sessions in the various schools collected the following information :-

		1970	1971
(a)	Number of girls to be vaccinated at County School Sessions	46	Nil
(b)	Number of girls whose parents did not wish them to be vaccinated	-	Nil
	Totals :	46	Nil

On completion of the programme the position was as follows :-

		1970	1971
(a)	Number of girls vaccinated by Medical Officer of Health	40	Nil
(b)	Number of girls who failed to present themselves for vaccination ...	6	Nil
	Totals :	46	Nil

From the above, it will be noted that no Rubella (German Measles) vaccinations took place during 1971. This was due to the wider range of age groups to which this vaccination was made available during the year, and the extra amount of work involved in programming these sessions. However, these were programmed for early January 1972, and should be completed the same month.

TUBERCULOSIS

6 primary notifications of Tuberculoses (5 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary) were received and involved the Parishes of Ampfield (1), North Baddesley (3), Romsey Extra (1) and Stockbridge (1).

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Primary Notifications - ∅ (New Cases)	3	2	-	1	6
Transferred "In"	-	-	-	-	-
Totals :	3	2	-	1	6

Number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register :

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Number on Register as at 31st December, 1969	129	82	29	50	290
Number on Register as at 31st December, 1970	129	84	29	51	293
Number on Register as at 31st December, 1971	132	86	29	52	299

Tuberculosis : ∅ New Cases - Age Groups :

Age Group	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-
2 - 4 years	1	-	-	-
5 - 9 years	-	-	-	-
10 - 14 years	-	-	-	1
15 - 19 years	-	-	-	-
20 - 24 years	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	-	1	-	-
35 - 44 years	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	1	-	-	-
55 - 64 years	-	1	-	-
65 - 74 years	-	-	-	-
75 and over	1	-	-	-
Totals :	3	2	-	1

Notifiable Cases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year :

Disease	Total cases notified	Deaths
Diphtheria	-	-
Dysentery	1	-
Encephalitis - infective ...	-	-
Encephalitis - post-infective	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-
Measles	9	-
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-
Pneumonia - acute	-	-
Poliomyelitis - Paralytic	-	-
Poliomyelitis - Non-paralytic	-	-
Peurperal Pyrexia	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-
Smallpox	-	-
Tetanus	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-
Totals :	11	-

B.C.G. Vaccination :

This valuable service is still made available to school children between the ages of 13 and 14, by the School Health Service.

SMALLPOX

232 children up to the age of 16 years were vaccinated, and 33 re-vaccinated. Of the former, the figure of 150 was supplied by the County Medical Officer as having been dealt with by General Practitioners under the County's Computer Appointments Scheme.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER :

The District is supplied with water by two Statutory Undertakings, the City of Southampton and the West Hampshire Water Company. The water supplied by the City of Southampton is obtained from deep wells in the chalk at Timsbury and Broughton, from the River Itchen, and River Test.

Bacteriological samples have been taken throughout the year and found to be satisfactory.

EXTENSION OF MAINS AND OTHER WORKS INCIDENTAL TO WATER SUPPLIES

The following mains were laid during the year :-

(1) West Hampshire Water Company :

Parish	Total No. supplied	Length of water Mains laid yards	Diameter of Mains
Plaitford	35	-	-
Wellow	463	1088	3"
		54	1½"
	498		

(ii) City of Southampton :

Parish	Total No. supplied	Length of water Mains laid yards	Diameter of Mains
Ampfield	462	207	4"
Ashley	18	-	-
Bossington	20	-	-
Braishfield	191	-	-
Broughton	321	37	4"
Buckholt	7	-	-
Chilworth	339	-	-
East Dean	77	-	-
East Tytherley	34	-	-
Frenchmoor	17	-	-
Houghton	125	-	-
King's Somborne	371	120	4"
Lockerley	214	-	-
Longstock	67	132	3"
Melchet Park) and Plaitford)	46	-	-
Michelmersh	153	-	-
Mottisfont	114	-	-
Nether Wallop	238	20	2"
		152	3"
		27	4"
		85	6"
		23	8"
North Baddesley	1,778	138	3"
Nursling & Rownhams	825	-	-
Over Wallop	279	1,526	6"
		1,337	8"
C/fwd.	5,696		

(ii) City of Southampton (Contd.)

Parish	Total No. supplied	Length of Water Mains laid yards	Diameter of Mains
B/fwd.	5,696		
Romsey Extra	426	89	3"
		152	4"
		133	6"
Sherfield English	370	332	3"
Stockbridge	152	-	-
Wellow	88	-	-
West Tytherley	140	71	2"
		406	3"
		26	4"
	6,872		

(iii) Chemical Analysis of Water :

The table following shows the results of typical analyses of water from the City's four sources of supply affecting this District and the supply from the West Hampshire Water Company.

Treated Water 1971	West Hants	Tims-bury Wells	River Itchen	River Test	Broughton Wells
General Chemical Analysis :					
Colour (°Hazen)	Nil	< 5	< 5	< 5	< 5
Free Chlorine as Cl ...	0.2	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.02
Combined " " " ...	-	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.04
Chlorine Dioxide	-	-	-	0.14	-
Free Carbon Dioxide as CO_2	10-16	21	3	3	11
Free & Saline Nitrogen as N	-	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen as N	Nil	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.01
Nitrous Nitrogen as N ...	-	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
Nitric Nitrogen as N ...	Nil	2.6	3.9	4.2	4.1
Oxygen absorbed from N/80 (Permanganate in 4 hours at 27° C)	0.02-0.2	0.03	0.10	0.35	0.05
Total Alkalinity as $CaCo_3$	220-230	265	145	135	200
Total Dissolved Solids (dried at 160° C)... ...	-	370	260	270	310
pH	7.8	7.45	7.95	8.1	7.4
Hardness : (p.p.m.)					
Temporary Hardness as $CaCo_3$	220-230	260	145	135	200
Permanent Hardness as $CaCo_3$	34-36	35	35	40	30
Total Hardness as $CaCo_3$	254-266	295	180	175	230
Total Hardness (° Clark)	-	21.0	12.6	12.3	16.1
Mineral Analysis : (p.p.m.)					
Calcium as Ca	98	114	66	72	88
Magnesium as Mg	6	3	2	2	2
Sodium as Na	14	13	10	10	8
Potassium as K	2	1.5	1	1	< 1
Carbonate as Co_3	138	161	87	88	121
Chloride as Cl	18-19	17	15	15	11
Sulphate as So_4	16	17	14	22	8
Silicate as $Si\ O_2$	8	15	11	11	14
Nitrate as No_3	25	12	17	19	18
Nitrite as No_2	-	< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.05
Zinc as Zn	Nil	< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.05	0.20
Iron as Fe	Nil	< 0.04	< 0.04	< 0.04	0.05
Copper as Cu	Nil	< 0.04	< 0.04	< 0.04	0.03
Lead as Pb	Nil	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02	< 0.02
Aluminium as Al	-	-	0.24	0.23	-
Fluorine as F	-	0.36	0.16	0.16	0.15

(iv) Other Supplies :

Samples from wells and other private supplies taken by the Department and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Southampton for bacteriological examination :-

Number taken	13
" satisfactory	13
" unsatisfactory	Nil

Thirteen samples of water were also taken from watercress beds during the year, the results were as follows :-

Satisfactory	11
Unsatisfactory	2

Two samples were also taken for chemical analysis and were found to be satisfactory.

SWIMMING POOLS

The following school and private swimming pools in the District were inspected from time to time when the chlorine content and the pH values were taken. As a matter of routine, ten bacteriological samples were submitted to the Pathology Laboratory which were satisfactory.

The list of establishments with swimming pools is shown below :-

Stockbridge County Secondary School
Marsh Court
Norman Court
Melchet Court
Northcliffe
Embley Park
Stanbridge Earls
Stroud
John Lewis Partnership, Leckford

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE

The Council's Engineer and Surveyor has kindly supplied the following information :-

(1) Premises connected to the Public Sewers :

Parish	Total	Connections 1971
Ampfield	301	5
Chilworth	106	1
North Baddesley	1,763 units	41 units
Nursling & Rownhams ...	631 units	7 units
Romsey Extra	253	183
Stockbridge	183	15
Wellow	329	57 units

(ii) Total length of Public Sewers in the District :

35.20 miles

(iii) 1971 Sewer Extensions :

Nil.

(iv) Sewage Disposal Schemes :

(a) Completed 1971 - Romsey Extra.

(b) Under Construction - Dunbridge and Plaitford.

(c) Proposed and accepted by Ministry - Chilworth.

(v) Analysis of Sewage Disposal Works Effluents :

Site of Works	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Stockbridge	3	1	4
Wellow	3	Nil	3
	6	1	7

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Domestic and Trade Collections :

1971 proved itself as a year of change and upheaval in respect of refuse collection in more ways than one. Following the decision by the Council to commit the service to a Work Study exercise by Hampshire County Council Work Study Section, introducing an incentive bonus scheme, and ultimately the absorption of any savings into an improved service, the first scheme was put into operation in July.

The initial scheme proved to be chaotic and a complete revision of the scheme took place and was implemented in October. During the months of disarray, which was in no way the result of non-co-operation on the part of the men, I must pay tribute to the way in which the refuse collection staff, with few exceptions, often by way of excessive overtime, managed to maintain the service and also particularly the office staff who frequently had to deal with very irate and abusive members of the public, at the peak, dealing with up to fifty calls a day.

Following the introduction of the revised scheme and certainly by the end of the year, the main teething troubles of the back-door collection had been resolved, providing the District with the exception of the Parishes of North Baddesley, Nursling and Rownhams, Michelmersh and Braishfield, with a back-door refuse collection service on the basis of collecting bins from the back door but returning the bins to the kerbside.

The original Work Study Scheme envisaged this being undertaken by four vehicles and crew of twelve plus one spare man, but eventually evolved using five vehicles and one extra crew member. Despite this I feel it is gratifying to consider that in just four years a complete transition has taken place from a fortnightly kerbside collection to a weekly back-door collection in the vast majority of the area with the provision of only two extra vehicles and four men.

Domestic and Trade Collections (Contd.)

The ultimate completion of the rounds due in 1972 will increase the fleet and labour force by only two extra men and the use of one further vehicle for one day only, held at present in a spare capacity.

Refuse Disposal :

The disposal of Domestic and Trade refuse from this Authority and Romsey Borough continues by means of controlled tipping at Bunny Lane Tip, Timsbury. All the refuse from the District is now tipped at Timsbury, whereas before a certain amount from the Northern Parishes was taken to Andover R.D.C's Tip at Chilbolton.

No vandalism has been experienced during the year and the compound for members of the public to use at any time during the week has been used well and respected. It is known that considerable use is made of this compound by persons living outside the District, and particularly from the urbanised areas surrounding the Southern Parishes. Whilst the time taken to clear the compound increases and presents its own problems, it is nevertheless a provision extremely well used and needed, and would appear to be having a lessening effect on the dumping of unwanted articles in ditches and laybys.

During the year a provisional landscaping plan was prepared by Hampshire County Council for the eventual return of the tip area to an area of recreational use, and this is being followed as tipping proceeds.

The charge for disposal of trade waste at the tip continues at £1 per load, and several manufacturing concerns in the two Authorities deposit fairly large amounts of waste as well as the two hundred tons of domestic refuse from this Authority and the Borough per week.

Staff :

There has been a slight flow of labour during the year, but again there has been no problem in recruitment, and at times there have been up to six men on a waiting list for employment.

At the end of the year the complement of men employed on refuse collection and disposal was as follows :-

1	... ...	Foreman
5	... ...	Drivers
1	... ...	Relief Driver
8	... ...	Loaders
1	... ...	Tip Attendant and tractor driver

Refuse Collection Vehicles :

Two new vehicles were purchased during the year, due partly to cope with the reformed rounds and partly as a general replacement policy in order to modernise the fleet. The new vehicles, both of the ejection type being most suitable for tip disposal methods, were of different sizes, one being capable of accepting 70 cubic yards of refuse and used to capacity on rounds eliminating two trips to the tip on long hauls.

Maintenance costs again increased, partly due to a larger fleet, but mainly due to bringing the maintenance standard in line with the requirements of the Plating and Testing legislation, due to apply to refuse vehicles in 1972.

Refuse Collection Vehicles (Contd.)

The vehicle fleet was as follows :-

Refuse Collection :

1 Dennis Paxit Major (II) C.T. (spare) first registered July 1961.

1 Dennis Paxit Major (III) D.C.T. (spare part of year) first registered November 1963.

1 Dennis Paxit Major (IIIA) D.C.T. first registered November 1966.

1 B.M.C. Eagle Crushload D.C.T. first registered July 1967.

1 Bedford Eagle Compressload 5 D.C.T. ejection type first registered April 1970.

1 Bedford Eagle Compressload 7 D.C.T. ejection type first registered July 1971.

1 Dennis Paxit 50 D.C.T. ejection type first registered November 1971.

1 Bedford 15 cwt Van used by the Foreman.

Refuse Disposal :

1 Bristol Taurus Tractor.

1 Winget Dumper.

Litter :

The modern trend of the production of expendable bulky consumer items, and particularly the modern concept of dense housing estates continues to produce a demandfor the disposal of items too large to dispose during normal refuse collection times.

The commencement of a free collection of such items in this Authority last year has proved this need, and despite limited staff and the necessity to hire a special vehicle for the purpose, some 195 special collections were undertaken during the year, many of these amounting to half a lorry load at a time.

Litter (Contd.)

Despite the Departments own advertising campaign in varying forms and local press articles, problems are still encountered, particularly in the Southern Parishes, from the dumping of such articles in ditches and laybys. The most serious problem was that at Frogmore Lane, Nursling, on the boundary of the City of Southampton, where as an experiment a large skip was placed to afford easy renoval of rubbish being placed on a long stretch of verge and ditch. This did not prove satisfactory and ultimately had to be removed after only four weeks due to vandalism. Whilst in position the use made of the skip was out of all proportion to its size, showing a desperate need for some form of collection service, well over 95% of it coming from within the confines of the City boundary.

Despite several approaches to the City Authorities, the policy of providing only a rechargeable service was not changed, other than a promise for increased publicity for the service.

The problems continued throughout 1971 and no fewer than twenty two collections involving two men and a vehicle for a day at a time were necessary to clear accumulations in the area, plus some further fifteen days in other parts of the District nearly all concentrated in the Southern Parishes. In all I would estimate some one hundred and fifty tons was collected during the year from these trouble spots.

I feel that it cannot be over emphasized that modern living standards and conditions require an equally fresh approach to bulky waste produced by it, if the open spaces and surrounding countryside to urbanised areas are not to be marred in direct conflict to their creation. There can be only one answer, adequate free collection and disposal points for such articles which will in the long term be cheaper than having to clear such items from open spaces and, therefore, creating an improved environmental quality.

CARAVANS AND OTHER MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There were 25 licensed sites in the District at the end of the year which was 27 fewer than the previous year, all of which were individual sites not renewed. The total number of caravans on the sites being 198 did not show a proportional decrease as the numbers on two multiple sites increased.

All the sites were inspected during the year when the conditions which were revised the previous year to ensure higher standards of sanitation and safety were being adhered to. It was not necessary to resort to legal proceedings for breaches in conditions or in the case of unlicensed sites.

The decision the previous year to construct Local Authority owned sites to overcome the numbers of unlicensed sites of long standing suffered several set backs during the year due to the objections of local residents to what they feared as the formation of "Gypsy Settlements". The outcome was the construction of a small site for two caravans at Hurley Way, Plaitford.

The occupants of the 11 moveable caravans of the 30 unlicensed occupied caravans were approached, but by the completion of the site during the latter part of the year, only 2 occupiers were willing to move or were thought suitable. Of the remainder, the majority were offered housing accommodation which resolved the immediate problem, and at the same time a policy of legal proceedings being taken against any new unlicensed caravans entering the District was started.

The policy decision to proceed against such cases in the future and a planning policy of refusing permission for individual caravans except for genuine reasons has undoubtably had a marked effect in the number of caravans in the District, and those licensed during the year.

UNFIT HOUSING

An appeal to the County Court was lodged by the owner of a property against the decision to make a Closing Order under the provisions of the Housing Act 1957. The appeal was based on the fact that the owner did not consider the property to be unfit, or if it were, that it could be rendered fit at reasonable cost.

During the time leading up to the hearing of the case the Department came under a certain amount of critisism with regard to the standards being set when inspecting houses under the provisions of the Housing Act 1957, and in particular, Section 4, and also the method of valuations and presentation to Committee.

The appeal decision accepted that the house was unfit for human habitation, although not all the items listed as contributory to the unfitness were accepted, in particular instability of the structure which, upon renovation of the cottage, was borne out by the collapse of that part of the structure indicated in the Department's report. I am quite satisfied that the standards adopted were and are correct, and that they are administered in a fair manner.

The reports to Committee were at that time set out under the headings of Section 4 of the Housing Act 1957, but have been modified so as to include only those particular items of disrepair and not inclusive of general description which are individually priced in respect of cost of repair.

The appeal was upheld on the grounds that the property in question although unfit was repairable at reasonable cost. There is no definition of "reasonable cost" or the method one should value a property under the terms of the Act, or to what extent controlled tenancies should be considered. In the circumstances a valuation system was used at the time which tended to give low valuations, although this was generally accepted for the purpose by most Authorities.

Due to the escalating value of property in this part of the Country a new system of valuation was agreed having regard to increased valuation for works of improvements, and an alternative which is also used, is multiplying the Rateable Value by a factor of 40.

Both these methods give higher values than the method previously used, although the value placed by the County Court on the property subject to appeal was considerably higher still and was in fact a "vacant possession" value which unfortunately was not challenged.

The present system of valuation can still be open to critisism and until such time that a definition by Statute is issued it is likely to be challenged. A Local Authority is in a difficult position in deciding upon a reasonable valuation in the circumstances because if a low valuation is placed on the property, which would necessitate Closing or Demolition Order procedure, an appeal may be lodged as in this instance, which is very rare, or alternatively, which is more likely, if too high a valuation is made and Section 9 procedure is instigated requiring works to be carried out, this can also be made subject to appeal.

The valuation now being made would appear to be reasonable, but it is of interest to note that on one occasion during the year when the District Valuers advice was sought, the value placed on the property was exactly half of that placed by the Department, and similar views have been expressed by professional valuers when asked informally for advice.

Despite the difficulties of valuation in relation to unfit houses, I feel it would be a retrograde step to ignore the responsibilities of the representation of unfit houses in the District as the housing stock has shown considerable improvement through such action during the last three years and occasional challenging by owners as to reasonableness or otherwise of cost must be expected occasionally.

Unfit Housing (Contd.)

In relation to the Council's re-housing policy and general housing programme, I include the following figures which have been supplied by the Clerk's Department :-

(a) Total number of applicants on the Council's housing list as at 31st December 1971 380

(b) Total number of families re-housed during the year :-

General need applicants	76	
Slum Clearance and Caravans	20	96

The following table shows the number of individual unfit properties dealt with during 1971 :-

1. Housing Act 1957 :

Total number represented during the year (including those not determined in 1970) 14

			Number of families displaced	Number of persons displaced
(a)	Number of Demolition Orders	4		
	Number demolished to 31st December 1971	8	3	4
(b)	Number of Closing Orders - Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 17(3)	3	3	8
(c)	Number of Undertakings accepted - Not to re-let	3	-	-
	To render fit	-	-	-
(d)	Parts of buildings closed - Section 18	Nil	Nil	Nil

(Final decision on the remaining properties had not been made on the 31st December 1971.)

(e) Number of houses rendered fit 19

2. Housing Act 1969 :

Improvement Grants :

Entire responsibility for the operation of the Improvement Grant scheme, with the exception of certain legal and financial matters was transferred to the Department on 1st January 1971. This enables greater efficiency when dealing with applications where the Department already has an interest, e.g. where action under Part II Housing Act 1957 has been, or is being, taken. Thus, duplicate visits by different Officers have been avoided, and there has also been a closer grouping of private housing functions within one Department.

At the time that this transfer of functions took place the Public Health Committee met to establish, as far as possible, a general policy within which the Improvement Grant scheme would be operated. Applications for Discretionary or Standard Grants within this policy are approved by myself, and a report referred to Committee, whereas applications outside the policy are reported to Committee for a decision.

Cases where application for Discretionary Grant would not be entertained were established as follows :-

(a) The conversion of two or more dwellings into one where separate accommodation could reasonably be provided in their own right with the aid of a Grant as necessary.

(b) Where the cost of the scheme is such that it would exceed the cost of a new dwelling.

(c) Where the scheme is so lavish it would be beyond the concept of the Grant scheme.

In all cases where Discretionary Grants are refused, Standard Grants are approved towards the provision of any lacking standard amenities.

Housing Act 1969 (Contd.)

During the year approval was given for the payment of one interim payment where the Grant approved exceeded £800. and paid upon completion of at least 50% of the Grant earning work in a satisfactory manner.

The approved cost of Discretionary Grants are calculated on estimates received upon application, only one estimate being insisted upon. Evaluation of submitted estimates with the pricing of the application within the Department ensures a reasonable basis of comparison, and Grant payment is based on the lowest of the two figures. An amount of up to 7½% is permitted for professional fees.

It is the Council's policy to place a twelve months time limit for completion on the approval certificate, although this is often extended in genuine cases.

There would appear two main misconceptions regarding Grants :-

(a) That Grants can be obtained for repairs to houses or purely the extension of a dwelling otherwise with all amenities. These misunderstandings to a large extent are due to the publicity issued in the press or by booklets, which by necessity are limited in their content.

(b) That where action under the Housing Act 1957 for securing works to render the property fit, or where Closing or Demolition Orders have been made, Grants would not be available. It is the policy of the Department to advise owners of the availability of Grants at the time of any procedures under the above provisions.

Housing Act 1969 (Contd.)

The following table provides basic information as to the Grants which have been dealt with, including a comparison with the preceding year where appropriate.

Applications	Received		Approved		Completed	
	1970	1971	1970	1971	1970	1971
Discretionary	89	82	61	72	15	41
Standard	7	14	6	14	5	8

The average amount of Grant paid in the year under review was as shown :-

	Average Grant 1971	Maximum available
Discretionary	£805	£1,000
Standard	£380	£450

New Housing Statistics :

Number of houses built by the Council and Private Enterprise :

The following figures show the number of units of accommodation completed in 1971 within the District by the Council and Private Enterprise :-

Municipal Housing :

North Baddesley 32

New Housing Statistics (Contd.)

Private Development :

Ampfield	2
Braishfield	1
Broughton	4
Chilworth	1
King's Somborne	1
Lockerley	4
Mottisfont	1
Nether Wallop	1
North Baddesley	19
Nursling & Rownhams	7
Over Wallop	2
Romsey Extra	5
Sherfield English	1
Wellow	14
West Tytherley	2
TOTAL	65

NUISANCES

Public Health Act 1936 :

During the course of the year 31 alleged nuisances were reported and investigated. 12 complaints were found to be unfounded, of the remainder 11 were dealt with informally.

Statutory Notice	1
Informal Notice	1

Number of nuisances abated following service of :-

Statutory Notice	1
Informal Notice	1
By informal approaches or natural causes	12

FILTHY AND VERMINOUS PREMISES

11 cases of filthy or verminous premises were dealt with during the year as follows :-

Fleas	6
Cockroaches	5
Bed Bugs	Nil
Filthy	Nil

Cockroach infestations occur from time to time in some of the older Council houses, effective treatment being often difficult due to the absence of a concrete oversite beneath hollow wooden floors. However, with the modernisation of Council houses, this problem is being gradually overcome by the replacement of existing timber floors with solid concrete construction, thereby depriving the cockroaches of an inaccessible space in which to breed.

An infestation of the lesser house fly (fannia canicularis) occurred at a house within the District, situated in close proximity to poultry houses. Samples of poultry manure from both the deep litter houses and the battery cages were examined after a joint visit between a Public Health Inspector and an officer of the Pest Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The flies were found to be breeding in the deep litter houses, and it is hoped that preventative measures taken during the Spring of 1972 in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations will prevent a re-occurrence of the complaint.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Regular inspections of all classes of food premises were carried out during the year, and every effort is made to secure compliance of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1970 which came into force on 1st March 1971.

The new Regulations revoke the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960 and 1962, the principal changes being as follows :-

Regulation 2(1) :

As in the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966, the definition of "food" now includes raw food which has to be milled or refined in order to make it fit for human consumption.

Foods which are wrapped as described in the schedule to the regulations are excluded from the definition of "open food", the significance of this provision being the relaxation of certain requirements of the Regulations relating to handling and storage of food.

Regulations 9(b) and 26(1) :

The trader is required by regulation 9(b) to separate unsound food from sound food; and in order to guard against the risk that the rejected food may again become mixed with sound food, it is a requirement of regulation 26(1) to provide enough space for sorting the food and storing the waste while it awaits disposal.

Problems arise from time to time with shops on the District which have inadequate storage space to enable accumulated refuse and unsound food to be segregated from stored food, particularly where the shop has a large trade. The only real answer is to provide additional storage space specifically for storage of refuse and unfit food.

Regulations 9(b) and 26(1) (Contd.)

Although advice may be given at the planning stage of a shop, it is difficult to anticipate the expected trade and subsequent storage space required.

Regulation 9(d) :

This provision requires that open food be protected, where necessary, against such things as dirt and the actions of customers, by covering or screening the food.

Regulation 9(e) :

It is now an offence to keep animal feed, i.e. pet food, in a food room unless it is packed in a sealed can or other container that prevents the risk of contamination.

The definition of "animal feed" in Regulation 2(1) makes it clear that the ban does not apply to food such as bones and pieces which butchers sell for feeding to pets, but which can quite properly be sold as food for human consumption.

Regulation 11 :

As in the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966, most handlers of open food are required to wear clean and washable overclothing.

Regulation 33 :

This regulation applies a number of the requirements of the Regulations to the packing or storing of eggs, fruit or vegetables on farm premises, previously exempted.

Food and Drugs Act (Contd.)

It was found necessary to resort to Court proceedings in the case of a catering establishment at which conditions had been far from satisfactory for some time, and despite the Department's efforts to achieve an improvement in conditions, very little progress had been made. One of the major difficulties with this particular establishment was that the operator did not own the premises, and was, therefore, reluctant to bear any expenditure in respect of structural alterations or repairs. Consequently, as a result of the structural repairs required, keeping the premises in a satisfactory state of cleanliness was a difficult task.

The number of food premises within the Rural District, being 187, are as follows :-

Confectioners	12
Licensed Premises	44
Restaurants, Cafes and Guest Houses	14
Butchers Shops	6
Fish Shops	1
Fish & Chip Fryers	3
Clubs and places of entertainment	7
Works Canteens	3
School Canteens	12
Grocers and General Shops	58
Mobile Shops and Roadside Stores	8
Food Warehouses	2
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1
Poultry Establishments	2
Holiday Camp	1
Game Packing Station	1
Farm Shops	12

Food and Drugs Act (Contd.)

Prosecutions were taken both in respect of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, (These Regulations were still in force at the time the offences were committed) and the Food and Drugs Act 1955, the latter being in respect of the sale of an ice cream cone containing a live cockroach.

The Company operating the establishment was fined £135 on five charges and given a conditional discharge for three years on the remaining fourteen charges.

Section 16 - Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :

(1) Registration of premises for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale :

7 premises are now registered for this purpose.

(2) Ice-Cream :

48 premises are now registered for the sale and storage of ice-cream. 1 premise is registered for the manufacture of ice-cream. 8 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results :-

Grade			Ice-Cream
Grade	I	(very satisfactory) ...	4
"	II	(satisfactory) ...	3
"	III	(unsatisfactory) ...	0
"	IV	(most unsatisfactory ...	1

These samples were submitted from the registered premises where ice-cream is manufactured being potentially the most vulnerable.

A detailed inspection of premises and equipment was carried out following the report on the unsatisfactory sample but no obvious explanation could be found that would produce an unsatisfactory result. A follow up with further sampling produced satisfactory results and no further action was taken.

MILK AND DAIRIES

The number of licences issued :-

(a) Retailers licences issued for the 5 year period ending 31st December 1975, was as follows :-

Pasteurised	13
Sterilised	2
Ultra heat treated	13
Untreated	3

(b) Producer retailer licences untreated milk issued by the Ministry 12

(2 discontinued during the year)

Monthly samples are taken from these sources and submitted to the Pathology Laboratory particularly to determine the presence of Brucella organisms in addition to the statutory Methylene Blue Test.

During the year 2 retailers have ceased selling raw milk.

Milk and Dairies (Contd.)

Brucella Abortus :

Two cows which were bought in by one of the producer/ retailers were found to be producing milk containing Brucella organisms and subsequently the cows were removed from the herd.

Producer/retailers are generally very co-operative with the Public Health Department in the testing of milk for Brucella organisms and milk samples are submitted from all new additions to the herd of one of the largest producer/retailers in the District to ensure minimum possibility of transmission of Brucella organisms to consumers of milk distributed. In the case of cows positive to Brucella, the infected milk is sent for pasteurisation and the cows are withdrawn from the herd as soon as practicable.

One particular case of Undulant fever was reported in a girl of 19 years who apparently drank relatively large quantities of untreated milk, and at the time of infection was slowly recovering from a serious motor accident, having at that time a low resistance to infection. The Undulant fever infection presented itself as a complication to her condition and was thought to have been caused from untreated milk containing Brucella organisms.

It is apparent that the incidence of Brucella infection in cows is on the increase, despite the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food promoting a voluntary eradication scheme to set up "Brucellosis Accredited" herds with incentive milk bonuses for continuing satisfactory sample results in addition to compensation for infected animals slaughtered. It is thought that carelessness on the part of some dairymen in not properly disposing of calf foetuses resulting from abortions from infected cows has played an active part in the spread of the infection. However, as the scheme is given wider publicity, more and more herds are being tested, and eventually it is hoped that all cattle in this country will be completely free from Brucellosis.

Milk and Dairies (Contd.)

Class of Milk	No. of samples taken	Test	Pass	Fail
Untreated	127	Methylene Blue	54	4
		Ring Test	107	9
		Guinea Pig	-	-

Six of the ring test failures produced negative results of Brucella Culture.

There are no pasteurisation plants in the District.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS

Unsound Food surrendered or condemned :

Meat at retailer shops	Nil
Cooked meat and meat products	9½ lbs.
Canned meat	15 lbs.
Fruit and vegetables (tinned)	74 lbs.
Frozen food	246 lbs.
Other packaged foods	291 lbs.

All this food was voluntarily surrendered by the shop keepers and wholesalers concerned and was disposed of to prevent it being used for human consumption.

Slaughterhouses :

No slaughtering is carried out in the District.

Food Control :

A number of food complaints were received by the Department during the year, most of which were of a relatively minor nature and did not warrant legal action. In the majority of cases, the complaints were dealt with without the necessity of reporting the facts to the Public Health Committee.

POULTRY INSPECTION

Regular inspections of the poultry establishments in the District continued throughout the year. Below details are given of the inspections carried out :-

(a)	Number of poultry processing premises	2
(b)	Number of visits to these premises ...	61
(c)	Number of birds processed during the year :-	
(i)	Turkeys	15,387
(ii)	Chickens	18,495
(iii)	Total numbered condemned	459
(iv)	Total weight condemned	2,102 lbs.

(d) % number of total throughout condemned :-

(i)	Emaciation and poorness	0.680 %
(ii)	Ascites	0.240 %
(iii)	Abcesses	0.190 %
(iv)	Bruising	0.040 %
(v)	Tumours	0.001 %
(vi)	Leucosis	0.007 %
(vii)	Other causes including dead on arrival	0.200 %
	TOTAL	1.358 %

Poultry Inspection (Contd.)

The method of inspection continued as set out in the Ministry's circular 22/61 by means of regular weekly visits to the processing stations and the inspection of poultry which has been put to one side by the operators themselves whenever they were in doubt as to the fitness or otherwise of the bird in question.

The implications of the entry of this Country to the Common Market could result in fresh plucked poultry being forced off the market within four years.

Proposed E.E.C. regulations will prohibit the sale of uneviscerated rough plucked fresh chicken and turkeys by poultry farmers.

Whilst many housewives may regard this as an undesirable step, particularly with the traditional Christmas turkey, the requirements of the proposed regulations would undoubtably be welcomed by those officers responsible for poultry inspection. Evisceration would take place on poultry packers premises thereby allowing greater opportunity for more detailed post mortem inspection than is possible with uneviscerated poultry.

NOISE ABATEMENT

Complaints of noise have been received during the year from such operations as :- gravel extraction and screening, compressor noise from metal shotblasting and noise from the starting of operations at a tarmacadam works during the early morning.

In the first case the complaint was found to be unjustified in that the recorded noise level was within the accepted limits laid down in the British Standard 4142 - 1967 "Method of Rating Industrial Noise Affecting Mixed Residential and Industrial Areas".

Investigations are still being carried out in respect of the other complaints, a Statutory Notice having been served in respect of the noise from the compressor motor, requiring the motor to be encased in a sound insulating structure.

Complaints of noisy animals are received from time to time, the majority of which can only be dealt with by the complainant taking a private action for an injunction.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health :

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	1	-	Nil
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	93	42	5	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals :	95	43	5	Nil

Whilst the total number of factories for a rural area appear to be high, the classification includes many small garages and workshops employing one person and inspections have been concentrated on the larger factories with numerous employees where there is the most effect.

2. Cases in which defects were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences :- (a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	5	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
Totals :	5	5	-	-	-

Factories Act 1961 (Contd.)

3. Outworkers :

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply Lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing)Making Apparel) etc., Cleaning and Washing	14	-	-	-	-	-
Other Work	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS :	14	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

During the year it was possible to inspect all the premises registered under the provisions of the Act. Informal Notices were served as follows :-

(a)	Unsatisfactory washing and toilet facilities	2
(b)	Defective floors, stairs and handrails	5
(c)	Guarding of dangerous machinery	3
(d)	Unsuitable ventilation	1
(e)	Thermometers	1

No exemptions were asked for and no prosecutions were instituted although Committee approval for prosecution was necessary in two cases before work was completed.

4 accidents were reported during the year, which although investigated were not significant enough to call for any recommendation.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 (Contd.)

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices ...	-	20	20
Retail Shops	1	71	71
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	1	1
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens ...	-	20	20
Fuel Storage Depots ...	-	-	-
Totals :	1	112	112

Total visits of all kinds 186

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 (Contd.)

Analysis of persons employed in premises registered up to the end of the year as follows :-

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	145
Retail Shops	206
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	80
Catering Establishments open to the Public ...	121
Canteens	12
Fuel Storage Depots ...	-
Total :	564
Total Males :	208
Total Females :	356

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

At the commencement of the year 8 applications were received for the licencing of Animal Boarding Establishments under the provisions of the above Act. Following tightening of controls on previous years and continued oversight, all applicants were issued with licences without the necessity for additional works or improvements to the establishments.

Of the 8 licensed establishments there was accommodation for 239 dogs and 71 cats, and some 31 visits were made during the summer period, in particular to the premises to ensure the conditions were complied with throughout.

I am quite satisfied that the conditions existing in the premises are of the highest standard and that the general public can leave their animals in them with confidence.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

There were no licensed premises within the District up to the end of the year.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949 AND THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (THRESHING & DISMANTLING OF RICKS) REGULATIONS 1950

To carry out the duties imposed upon Local Authorities by Section 2 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 to secure, so far as practicable, that the District is kept free from rats and/or mice, a staff of 1 is permanently employed.

Service and disinfestation to private property is indirectly free, the cost being borne by the General Rate Fund. A charge of £1 per hour applies to all business and agricultural premises requiring service, which adequately covers the cost of treatment, yet is competitive enough to encourage the use of the service, which from a control point of view is to be preferred.

All classes of property have been inspected including the Council's Refuse Tip and Sewage Disposal Works. Particular attention is also being made to banks, ditches and hedgerows where this source of infestation can cause adjacent property to become infested.

Complaints either by letter, telephone or verbal, are received and dealt with as soon as possible.

'Warfarin' has again been used exclusively during the year and has given excellent results, no resistance to the rodenticide being experienced in the Council's area, with the exception of mice.

A suspected case of Warfarin resistant rats was resolved with the use of liquid Warfarin bait, the dry bait being unacceptable to the rats for some unknown reason.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (Contd.)

The problem regarding resistance to 'Warfarin' by mice was more marked last year than ever before in the District and gave rise to a serious infestation in a large Warehouse which was impossible to control by the rodenticide.

The use of a narcotic Alphachloralose, which although having certain limitations due to effective operating temperatures, was found to be 100% successful, and this is now used exclusively against mice in the District by the Rodent Officer.

Details of Work :

	1970		1971	
	Ag.	Non Ag.	Ag.	Non Ag.
Total No. of properties inspected following notification	28	580	32	530
No. infested by :-				
Rats	28	535	32	495
Mice	6	30	10	28
Total No. of properties inspected not being previously notified	10	155	12	160
Rats	10	120	8	112
Mice	-	35	2	30
Income from Industrial and Agricultural properties	£99. 3s. 8d.		£173. 00p.	

OTHER PESTS

Wasps :

During 1971 an additional service was introduced for the destruction of wasps nests. The decision by the Public Health Committee was qualified by the making of a charge of £1 per nest to be paid prior to treatment. The commencement of the service had been requested by the Department in previous years and despite the charge the service was well used and very much appreciated by the public.

During the year 50 requests were received, 42 in August, 6 in September, and 2 in November. With the exception of one case all treatments were successful and carried out by the Rodent Officer along with his usual duties.

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE
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AND TROPICAL MEDICINE